





## LOCAL AND GENERAL



**Da Doback, Director of the Observatory,** returned by the Victoria from Tacoma last night.

**\* \* \*** Interpreting telegrams by the American Mail will be found on the fifth page.

In the Warren Football Shield competition at Singapore the 25th Co., R.A., defeated the 30 Co., R.B., by 8 goals to nil.

**From the commencement of the King's** Strike to the 1st inst., strike pay amounting to £250,000 has been distributed amongst the men. Mr John Burns has appealed to the 70,000 Government workmen to contribute one shilling per week each to the funds in aid of the strikers.

The Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess, on Sunday evening, the 21st Nov.:

1. Overture "Rosaunda" Schuler.
2. The Flight of the Dove "Wendell."
3. The Song of the Dove "Wendell."
4. Selection "The Huguenots" "Wendell."
5. The Song of the Dove "Wendell."
6. The Song of the Dove "Wendell."

The new French gunboat *Surprise* arrived at Saigon a few days ago. She is an addition to the French Squadron. The *Comde's* crew will transfer to the *Lion* on arrival at Saigon, with the exception of the commander. The French flagship *Bayard* will be replaced early next year by the *D'Entrecasteaux*, a new cruiser of the first class. She is built specially for foreign service.

A Board of Trade deputation waited on Van Horne, the President of the C.P.R., at Vancouver on the 19th Oct., and discussed the improvement of the steamer service between Canada and Australia. Sir William stated that if the fast Atlantic steamship scheme went through his company intended putting improved steamers of the Empress type on the Australian service.

A Cricket Match between the St. Joseph's Cricket Club and the Craigiegar Cricket Club will be played at the Happy Valley to-morrow, commencing at 2 p.m. sharp. The following will represent the Craigiegar Cricket Club:—M. E. Asgar (Capt.), R. Basa, L. E. Lammert, J. L. Stuart, A. E. Asgar, H. Jacoby, H. Rupp, J. H. Ruttonjee, D. J. Corcoran, A. E. S. Alras, F. M. Cruz.

Yesterday afternoon, Messrs Hughes and Hough, auctioneers, exposed for sale, by public auction, at Kennedy's Stables, East Point, five gillies suitable for the Hongkong Derby. For the first, a grey pony, \$350 was refused. Mr Hart Buck purchased a grey at \$270, and Mr R. M. Gray secured a cream pony at \$210 and a white griffin at \$300. The fifth pony, a dun, was purchased by Dr Atkinson for \$210.

A Chinese *Chuan-shan* of the *Yamen* Times is carrying on an investigation in factory life throughout Japan. At Osaka, he reports a fearful state of affairs. "I am now here," he writes, "amidst shocking scenes of anarchy and wanton homicidal scenes that are rarely met with at factories of any other place. It is hardly credible in this age of progress and enlightenment, and yet it is an actual fact that most of the spinning mills and other factories of Osaka possess what may be called 'black holes.' The holes are a sort of subterranean rooms of six to eight-mat size, and apparently looking just like ordinary rooms, only the holes are totally destitute of light. What are the holes for? They are the rooms where operatives despoiled from other factories are secretly kept, so that they may not be detected even when officers of the wronged factories visit the mill to get back their operatives. At times when the officers' suspicion is strong, and they can not be easily induced to leave the premises, the poor girls raise such piteous outcries that all the ingenuities of the officers of the mill that is in the wrong are reduced to naught. Not infrequently the girls from bad ventilation and also horror of the rooms, are even said to temporarily lose their senses."

At the Theatre Royal, last night, the Elise Adair Company gave an amusing entertainment before a large house. The programme opened with a comedy in one act, entitled "The Silent System," in which Miss Adair appeared in the role of the aggrieved wife, and created great merriment by her interpretation of a sort of Mother Caudle's lecture to the long-suffering husband—a part which suited Mr Vanderlip admirably. Mr C. T. Robinson, our local humorist, was very funny in his numerous songs, and it is sufficient indication of the audience with a multiplication of songs. A series of animated pictures were shown by means of Edison's *vitae*scope. There was an almost total absence of the flicker which has characterized all previous exhibitions of pictures of this description in Hongkong and the scenes were both interesting and amusing. Messrs Tripodi and Saperana, Italian diatetists, were loudly called for their performance on the mandoline and guitar. Mr Vanderlip and Miss Adair evoked hearty laughter in the old-fashioned of nonsense, without rhyme, plot or reason, entitled "The Gay Parisienne," in which the popular comedienne introduced a number of new songs. Before the close of the performance, Mr Vanderlip took the opportunity to announce that another performance would be given on Saturday evening when an entire change will be made in the programme, including fifteen views of the Queen's Jubilee procession on the *Times*cope.

The Japanese steamer *Nanyo Maru* which left here a few days ago put back to port, having sustained damage in the recent gale outside.

By courtesy of Major Retallick and Officers, the Band of the Hongkong Regiment will play on the sea front, Kowloon, near the Officers' Mess, at 4.30 p.m. on Sundays, until further notice.

The Marine Insurance Co., Ltd., have issued their combined calendar and blotting pad for 1898, a copy of which has been forwarded to us by Mr H. A. Ritchie, local agent. On the covers are depicted a view of the P. and O. Company's steamer *Colindale*, and a view of Madras.

We hear that considerable interest is being taken in the Melbourne Cup this year by sweepstake holders in Hongkong. For the Cup, *Opus* was first, *Groffer* second and *Arum* third. The Victorian Derby was won by *Amberley*, with *Arum* second and *Fleet Admiral* third.

The Match between G. Company and H. Company on November 16, for the Inter-Company Challenge Shield W.Y.R., resulted in an easy win for the latter by 5 goals to 1. Both companies showed a decided improvement on last year's form, the passing of the A. Company forwards being particularly worthy of mention.

The body of the consensancy coolie who was drowned at Market Wharf on Wednesday afternoon was recovered last night alongside the wharf. Another body was picked up last night off Praya West. The body was of a man between fifty and sixty years of age, and had apparently been in the water for about two days. The body has not been identified.

The Hongkong Philharmonic Society will give a concert in St. George's Hall on Friday, 3rd December. The programme will be mainly orchestral, but will include vocal items. The Society has been doing very well during the past three months, and the forthcoming concert is likely to equal the best efforts of the Society. The Committee of the Society now consists of the Hon. W. M. Goodman, Messrs A. H. Botenheim, W. G. Bentley, A. Cumming (Hon. Sec.), H. Elmer, A. Giraud, G. P. Lammert and A. G. Ward.

A football match will be played at the Happy Valley to-morrow afternoon, commencing at 4 o'clock, between teams representing A. Company, W.Y.R., and Kowloon F.C. The teams are as follows:—A. Company—goal, Burrell; backs, Gomerall and Wainwright; half-backs, Davis, Elliker and Crabtree; forwards, Parker, Homewood, McDougal, Bolger, and Waldon. Kowloon—goal, Moore; backs, Asdown and Ritchie; half-backs, Smillie, Wilson and Gibson; forwards, Barlow, Pugh, McSwayed, Winch, and Broad.

About a week ago we published a letter signed 'Humanity,' calling attention to the badly-regulated condition of the street traffic in Hongkong. Our correspondent writes again complaining, and states that after 5.30 p.m. it is positively dangerous to turn a street corner when out driving, as the Police allow trolleys and other dangerous vehicles to loiter about the streets without lights and without respect to the rules of the road. This is a matter that deserves immediate attention and should not require an accident before the authorities take action.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Netherdale Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—  
Balance of Hon. Dr Ho Kai's Farewell Address Fund.....\$ 95.52  
Choi Chee Bee.....25  
Chung Nai On.....25  
Chung Nai On Co., Ltd.....15  
Wong Kam Fook.....10  
Kow Hong Tak.....5  
Chan Shek Shan.....5  
Wing Yue Shing.....5  
Yee On.....5  
Tat Chuen.....5  
Same under \$5.....40

Low exchange has not increased our prices of pianos, but we have instead reduced our expenses and our prices are the very lowest. W. Robinson & Co.

The barring out of 'Les Misérables' from the French course of the Philadelphia High Schools will probably cause much discussion among teachers, but it was doubtless on the simple ground that English French is too difficult for all except advanced pupils in the language. In regard to the alleged immorality of the work, any one who objects to Hugo will have to throw out Shakespeare, or else use an expurgated edition. Young people with small knowledge of real life frequently see no special meaning in passages that are full of significance to mature readers. It is the failure to recognize this which leads to the frequent educational crusades against certain classics, ancient and modern.—San Francisco *Oregonian*.

This question when and where the Burmese-Chinese Frontier Commission will begin work, depends largely upon General Jia, the Chinese Commissioner, who is now being addressed by Mr Thirkell White upon the subject. Preliminary arrangements are being made to send out two fully-equipped military parties, each with an escort of 100 men, to the frontier. Mr Thirkell White will probably be in charge of one and Mr George of the other, with Major Long and Captain Renny-Talbot in the parties will be ready to start from Rangoon on December 1. It is not improbable that starting in about the latitude of the frontier northwards, and the other along the frontier southwards, but no details can be given until the views of General Jia have been ascertained.—Burma *Chronicle*.

**NOTES BY THE WAY.**  
A great deal has been written in your Shanghai contemporaries about the treatment of the representatives of the Press in the tiffin room at the recent Race Meeting. My sympathies are with the pressmen, who have reason to be dissatisfied with the ill-bred bumpiness of some of the Race Club officials. At the same time, to one able to take an outside view of the controversy, it must appear that the Shanghai pressmen are making just a little too much of their grievance. The end they desire might, I think, be reached if they made less parade of their case. It is a matter between the Race Club and the Press, and I can scarcely believe that the Club Committee is composed entirely of gentlemen who will refuse to consider, fairly and with due regard to all the interests involved, any reasonable communication forwarded by the pressmen. My own view is this. The pressmen were insulted publicly; they acted very properly in withdrawing from the Race Meeting; they have thus made their public protest, and now they should be able to arrange with the Race Club Committee that similar friction may be avoided in future. If the Committee refuse to come to terms then the public will form its own opinion of the Committee, individually and collectively, and the Race Meeting, which amounts to little if unreported, may be allowed to go its way.

By rushing before the public misconception set abroad, and this is the sort of thing the 'wise' of Shanghai are given an opportunity of perpetrating.

**THE TIFIN THAT FAILED.**  
**Before.** The Committee of the Race Meeting, the highest authority in the local race meeting, provided suitable accommodation for the Press.—N. D. D. N.  
**After.** The arrangements for the Press at the local race meeting compared with Singapore, Hongkong, and Yokohama, are a disgrace.—S. D. P.  
The Press, on this occasion, was well provided for, there being a special stand set apart for their convenience.—S. D. P.  
Never have such a succession of hopelessly mediocre fields been started for the various events in such a hopeless and slipshod manner as was almost invariably the case in the late Meeting.—S. G.  
The racing was excellent, the fields were large, and the starting was as good as could be expected under the circumstances.—N. D. N.  
**PLAY THE GAME.**

The *Shanghai Daily Press* has probably greater experience of the East than I possess. But when it speaks about the better accommodation for the Press at the Hongkong Race Meeting it is a bit off. Of the conditions at Singapore and Yokohama, I cannot speak, never having attended a race meeting at either of these sporting centres, but it has often occurred to me as strange that no accommodation is made for the Press at the Race Meeting in Hongkong. There is absolutely no provision made for the reporters here. A race-book is sent the reporter, and a ticket of admission, and having turned him loose in the paddock he is graciously permitted to pick up his facts as best he can. I don't say that the reporters want more than to be left alone. They have done their work well in the past, and it redounds to their credit that they have done their work expeditiously and accurately 'off their own bats,' so to speak. (But if this paragraph should meet the eyes of the courteous Clerk of the Course and the Stewards of the Jockey Club, I hope it will induce them to set aside a room, with chairs and a writing desk, where the pressmen can write up their reports between the events without being exposed to the wind and weather as hitherto. It would also be more convenient if they had not to scramble for tiffin in the hotel pavilions. They do not want a tiffin at the expense of the Jockey Club, any more than their Shanghai brethren; but, as they attend the Race Meeting on business and not for their own amusement, it is not suggesting too much when I hint that the courtesy generally extended them at public and semi-public functions in England should be shown to reporters in Hongkong.)

I make the suggestion for what it is worth to the Hongkong Jockey Club.

While on this topic I might say the reporters appointed the arrangements made by the Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong Cricket Club for the accommodation of the Press during the cricket week. The idea was, of course, to allow the reporters and the pressman to carry on their duties undisturbed; and equally of course the general public considered it its duty to roll up and cheer with the scores and to obstruct the view of the field. That is one of the idiosyncrasies of the intelligent public, and I am therefore not astonished that one of the obnoxiousness should show surprise because one of the reporters hinted that he was not an X. Y. I should like to take this advantage of acknowledging the ready assistance given the Press by Mr E. H. Mitchell, who undertook the onerous duty of notching the runs for Hongkong in the recent matches. His geniality and accuracy were equally palatable.

Little Collins is at present experiencing 'the power of the Press' in a very personal manner. A London journal and the

literary to say in its critique that her new song, 'The Little Widow,' smacked of vulgarity. She promptly sued the journal for ridiculously high damages, stating she was afraid the remark would do her irreparable damage in America, where she was contemplating going on a long tour. American audiences were 'so particular and would not stand anything that was even tinged with a suspicion of vulgarity.' The court awarded her one hundred dollars damages, and then all the newspapers of London joined together and boycotted her. They agreed not to mention her name under any circumstances. Newspaper notice creates the vogue. It was chiefly because Lord Rosebery made himself agreeable to the newspaper reporters who perambulated the country in his train that he achieved his popularity many years ago. Other less eminent personages have owed their tinpot prestige to the same source; and Little Collins and others like her will learn in time that it is a very dangerous proceeding to tamper with the liberty of the Press.

Many an author would rather be 'elated' than that his work should pass into oblivion unnoticed. A lawyer dependent on publicity for his success in the Courts is in the same position, and this allows me to suggest that the plaintiff's statement of claim in an action brought against a newspaper for a malicious practice on the part of Brown might be struck out, on the ground that it was frivolous and vexatious. The plaintiff claimed damages on the ground that the defendant, his editor, and reporters, had maliciously conspired together to keep out of the paper all accounts of cases in which the plaintiff was engaged, either as solicitor to the parties or as a witness. Mr Odgers submitted that there was no duty resting on the owner or editor of a newspaper to report any particular case. It was a question solely for the discretion. The application was refused, and the matter will now proceed to trial after the Long Vacation.

This case raises a very curious issue. I have known cases at Home and also in Hongkong where lawyers who made themselves objectionable to the Press found themselves ignored by it. I don't think they liked it, and I believe they were right. It did not assist their professional advancement. The ethics of the procedure are not worth discussing, but the moral is apparent to the meanest intellect.

**REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.**  
[SUPPLIED TO THE 'CHINA MAIL']

LONDON, 17th November, 1897.

**FIGHTING ON THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.**

General Kempster's brigade, whilst returning from Maidan, was heavily attacked near the camp, and a detachment of the Dorsets were cut off in the darkness. Lieutenants Hales and Brooke and nine men were killed. The Sikhs covering the rear guard gallantly repulsed the enemy, losing Lieut. Leveque, Col. Abbott and twelve men killed; Lieut. Munn, Capt. Custance, and twenty-five men being wounded. Lieut. Wylie, of the Gurkhas, was also killed.

**NORTH BORNEO.**

Mr Martin, presiding at the annual dinner of the British North Borneo Company, said that the Company was desirous of meeting the grievance of Mat Saleh fairly if they could discover what his grievance was.

**AUSTRO-HUNGARY.**  
The Emperor of Austria, in receiving delegations, in a very pacific speech re-affirmed his adhesion to the triple alliance, and dwelt on the friendly relations existing with Russia. The Emperor did not allude to the Turkish difficulty.

**WEATHER REPORT.**  
The following notice is issued from the Observatory:—  
On the 18th at 11.30 a. The barometer has risen considerably on the China coast, fallen slightly in the Southeast. High pressure covers Central China and gradients for N.E. winds continue rather steep. Forecast: Fresh N.E. winds, cloudy, some rain; N.E. gales in the N. part of the China Sea.

**RUSSIA AND KOREA.**

Soul, Nov. 6.—It is reported that the contract for the extension of the Russian Railway, and the Korean Railway, the Russian Minister respecting the engagement of M. Alexieff, runs as follows:—  
1.—That M. Alexieff shall be engaged as Financial Adviser and Superintendent-General of Customs in Korea.  
2.—That M. Alexieff shall be paid an annual salary of 3,000 yen.  
3.—That the term of his service be left undecided.

4.—That M. Alexieff shall have the power of appointing or dismissing the Customs-house officials (so-zaimushis).  
5.—That M. Alexieff is extending the business of the Korean Financial Department in the Russian Legation. Important documents and papers were sent to the Russian Legation yesterday from the Financial Department.

Soul, Nov. 3.—M. Alexieff is accompanied by a high official connected with the Siberian Railway, whose mission is said to be to arrange for the construction of railways in Korea to join the new Russian system in Manchuria.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs is reported to have proposed the dismissal of all foreign employees in the Korean service with the exception of those of Russian nationality.

Soul, Nov. 7.—The contract for the engagement of M. Alexieff consists of eight articles. Article 6 provides that in consideration of the friendship existing between Korea and Russia, the term of service of M. Alexieff shall remain indefinite, but that only a foreigner of Russian nationality shall be appointed Financial Adviser if he leaves office. Article 5 provides that the Financial Adviser (Mr Alexieff) shall share his own Collector-General of Customs (an office which Mr Brown has previously held, together with that of Financial Adviser).—Korea *Chronicle*.

**FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AT THE DAIRY FARM.**

The Dairy Farm Company have been particularly unfortunate with their herd of cattle. The Company sustained serious loss last year by the outbreak of rinderpest, which practically swept out the whole herd, and to prevent a recurrence of the calamity, the farm was reconstituted on lines which render it possible to entirely isolate the unhealthily cattle from the healthy. At yesterday's meeting of the Sanitary Board, a letter was read from Mr C. V. Ladd, Colonial Veterinary Surgeon, informing the Board that he had found several cases of foot and mouth disease at the Dairy Farm Company's premises at Pokfulam. As will be seen from the letter printed below, Mr Walker, the manager, immediately on the discovery of the sickness, isolated the unhealthily cows, and the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon states that this having been done and as no milk will be allowed to be removed from the infected sheds, milk consumers need be under no apprehension as to the safety of the milk sent out by the Company. The letter is as follows:—

Government Offices,  
18th November, 1897.  
Sir,—I have the honour to inform you for the information of the Sanitary Board that I received notice this morning of some cases of sickness amongst the cattle at the Dairy Farm Company's premises, Pokfulam, and at once went out there for the purpose of investigating them.

I regret to report that I found several cases of foot and mouth disease in two adjoining sheds and at once gave orders that the infected cows should be isolated from the remainder.

I further gave instructions to the Manager, Mr Walker, that no milk must be taken for sale purposes from any cows which are housed in the two infected sheds (that I found, had already been done), and that all communication with the other sheds under the same premises be cut off entirely.

I next went to the adjacent Police station and obtained the services of an Indian constable, whom I placed on watch at the Dairy Farm Company's premises, Pokfulam, and at once went out there for the purpose of investigating them.

I am of opinion that these two sheds should be declared an infected area under Section 2, sub-Section 5, of Ordinance 17 of 1887.

Should no other sheds become infected these measures will suffice, but in the event of the disease breaking out in any of the uninfected ones they will also have to be declared in the infected area.

Under the provisions of the above Ordinance no milk will be allowed to be removed from the infected sheds, so that the milk consumers of the colony need be under no apprehension as to the safety of the milk sent out by the Company. I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,  
C. VIVIAN LADD,  
The Secretary Sanitary Board.

At the meeting of the Board, Dr Atkinson moved that the two sheds mentioned in the letter be declared an infected area and that the milk consumers be informed of the receipt of the letter.

**TRADE AT CHUNGKING.**  
A Chungking correspondent of the N. C. Daily News wrote on the 23rd October:—The Imperial Post is at last giving some thing like satisfaction, and thanks are due to the local officials in charge for their energetic efforts to improve the service. There are now a number of steamers coming weekly. That is the need of the hour—a steamer or steamers, to connect the port vitally with other ports. The Chinese are not likely to do it. Will the Japanese not attempt it? Or failing that, will not our British or American merchants bow buckle to the work? Mr Dudgeon's defence of the modern merchant is both able and eloquent, but so far as the western districts of China are concerned, it is true that since the opening of Chungking by treaty, no effort (with one or two exceptions) has been made by the British trader to do a direct personal business with the native merchants. If trade is to be fostered it must be by personal superintendence, and even personal drudgery on the spot. Men must come, and steamers must come if the trade of the west is to be made more bone-and-marrow to the port. It is possible to say that steamers cannot come here. Given the will to bring them, the difficulties of navigation which we have no desire to minimise in a letter, will be found to be less insuperable than many people suppose.

By-the-by, we sympathise with your fellow correspondent who suffers so much from the irregular arrival and departure of steamers at that port. At least he can comfort himself with the thought that steamers do come and go, and for the rest he has only to keep peeping away at the companies. They are sure to listen to reason in time, and his complaint is eminently reasonable.

The largest sum ever paid for duty at one time within the world's history, says the *Daily Chronicle* of September 29, was handed in the form of a check for £50,513 11s. 6d. to her majesty's customs on Monday by Mr Eglon. The payment represents a clearance of about 1500 tons of tea.

MARSHAL Campos has refused to accept the command in the Philippines. He must take a grave view of Spanish prospects, says the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He is said to believe his presence may be needed at home for a military dictatorship. Nothing short of a Gallic or other uprising or a popular attack on the dynasty could bring that about, and if such a thing is in any degree imminent, Spain is even worse off than had been suspected.

Two and one-half hours are required for a mosquito to develop from its first stage, a species resembling a cicada, to its active and venomous maturity. The insect in all its phases may be instantly killed by contact with minute quantities of permanganate of potash. It is claimed that one part of this substance in 1000 of solution distributed in mosquito marshes will render the development of larvae impossible; that a handful of permanganate will oxidise a ten-acre swamp, kill its entire insect life, and keep it free from organic matter for thirty days at a cost of 25 cents; that with care a whole State may be kept free of insect pests at a small cost. An elaborate method is said to be a few years old, which consists in a single pinch of permanganate being added to all the germs in a 1000-gallon tank.—American *Scientist*.

**CHINESE JUSTICE.**

(From Our Own Correspondent.)  
CANON, November 17.  
It would be instructive and interesting if the Consul to whom your correspondent referred the other day could be induced to explain and illustrate his statements concerning the Chinese Government. Every one, who knows anything of the Chinese, will readily admit that theoretically there are many things most excellent in the Chinese Government. But it is scarcely sufficient or satisfactory to begin and end with an excellent statute book. What we want to know is: Do these beneficent laws guide the rulers in their administration of justice? The following instance, it is to be feared, is only typical of what is happening every day in China.

I was introduced to the victim in a Chinese school to-day. He is a man past middle age. He has spent many years in the United States of America where, by his industry, he saved a considerable sum of money. This fact is enough to get a man into difficulties, for when a man has money there are so many who wish to share his wealth. The beginning of the trouble was a criminal assault on a woman working in the fields. Until I heard the full story I was inclined to think that this fugitive was perhaps charged with the crime in spite of the fact that he has excellent certificates of character from Americans and most reliable Chinese. My suspicion was entirely wrong and unfair to the man. After the assault, the woman, who was a relation of the man and a native of the same village, went home and complained of the treatment to her mother-in-law, her husband being in America. The old lady, who is about seventy years of age, immediately took up her daughter-in-law's case, and went to the house of the disturber of the harmony of her household. She attempted to inflict summary justice on this base fellow. Her efforts were not very successful, but what she lacked in strength she more than made up by a copious use of the choicest 'Billingsgate.' Now it happened that just at the time of this visit of vengeance the younger brother of the man who was the cause of all this trouble was lying in the house seriously ill. Almost immediately after this demonstration he died. This was too good a chance to let slip, so the base fellow aided by his friends trumped up a charge and appealed to the District Magistrate, alleging that this old woman had killed his brother. A counter charge was made of assault. Whereupon the Magistrate ordered this fellow, with his uncle to be detained in prison and also two representatives of the other side. To make matters worse, the woman who was the original cause of the contention, seeing the disgrace that had come to herself and her family, committed suicide.

The preliminary examination of the Magistrate brought out additional names, and this unfortunate man of whom I am writing was not a little alarmed and surprised to find his name included in a list of seven put in by the first appellants. It was no use protesting that he was four miles away when the trouble arose, for although his house and family are in the village he is absent most of the time attending to his business in the neighbouring market-town. An idiot counts for nothing in this land where 'truth is stranger than fiction.'

It may be asked why was his name included if as it is well known he had no part or lot in the matter. The reason is not far to seek; he has some money, and as a Christian he has refused to contribute to the heathen rites. What a joy such cases are to the half-starved Yamen runners! The warrant was issued for the arrest of these additional men. The runners set out to arrest, of course, but to receive their first contribution. They would be much pained if they had to do their duty for that would mean that the case was unprofitable to them. The first visit of these yamen officials brought them forty taels, and their demands increased with every subsequent visit. In it a wonder that a man should shut up his shop and depart under such circumstances?

The case drags on, and the men are still in prison, where they are likely to remain for some time to come. In the meantime the original malefactor and his party assuming an air of injured innocence propose a reconciliation with the old woman and her party if they agree to pay 800 taels. The likelihood is that this case will last for many years, and even if a settlement is made will break out again in some fresh form.

The old saying that the innocent suffer with the guilty finds ample justification and illustration in the annals of the Middle Kingdom. *Ux quo Domine.*

68 PLANES by 14 different makers in stock, all built for climate. The greatest variety in style, price and quality of tone in the East. W. Robinson & Co.

Dr Haffkine has given the following instructions for diagnosing bubonic plague:—(1.) Symptoms of disease; Fever preceded sometimes by rigor. Swelling in the limbs. Pain, swelling, and tenderness of one or rarely several superficial glands, most frequently of one in the groin, more rarely in a gland or glands of the arm-pit or of the cervical region. Delirium. Sometimes redness about vomiting which may or may not be successful; constipation, or occasionally, on the contrary, diarrhoea. Comatose or semi-comatose state of patient.—Voice weak, speech incoherent. (2.) The most prominent of these symptoms is the affection of superficial glands; cases when this symptom is absent, if there are any, appear quite exceptional.

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**LATE TELEGRAMS.**

(Times of Ceylon.)  
SINGAPORE AND KUALA LUMPUR.  
Allahabad Nov. 4.—The Bengali says are proving of the greatest assistance in dealing with gunshot wounds among the troops engaged on the frontier.

SINGAPORE, Nov. 4.—In view of the pressure on the Medical Department, eighteen out of twenty Army Medical Staff officers, under orders for relief, are being temporarily retained in India.

THE CALCUTTA VOLUNTEERS.  
Calcutta, November 4.—The Government of Bengal's proposal to amalgamate into one battalion all the Calcutta Volunteers Corps and do away with a paid Commandant was read out at a representative parade of the Presidency Volunteer Rifle Battalion today. All in favour of the proposal were asked to shoulder arms but not one man responded. On the negative vote being taken, the Volunteers were ordered to disband. The President of the Volunteer Rifle Battalion argued that they have everything to lose and nothing at all to gain by the amalgamation scheme.

MR CHAMBERLAIN IN GLASGOW.  
London, November 4.—Mr Chamberlain yesterday was in Glasgow and Glasgow University. His rhetorical address was devoted to patriotism. He condemned the representatives of universal philanthropy who clutched at every accusation of perfidy and cruelty against those who risked their lives and reputation in our service, and he was warmly applauded by the audience. The President of the Volunteer Rifle Battalion argued that they have everything to lose and nothing at all to gain by the amalgamation scheme.

At a luncheon given after Mr Chamberlain's installation at Glasgow, he said that our relations with South Africa were more satisfactory than they had been for many a year, and he believed really that a united Empire was becoming a question of practical politics.

THE FAMINE IN INDIA.  
Simla, November 4.—The number of persons under famine relief this week shows a further reduction in every province. The total has now fallen to 1,165,106 of which the Central Provinces account for 27,000 and Bombay for 109,000. The corresponding grand total last week was 862,593.

The prices of grains continue to fall slowly but such cheap food-stuffs as barley and other grain upon which the poor are largely dependent are still sold at about double the rates obtaining in ordinary years. Fine grain like wheat the other hand is fifty per cent above normal prices. For example, in the North-Western Division, wheat now sells at about ten seers the rupee, whereas the present high rates in Europe are only equivalent to about fifteen seers the rupee in this country.

CALCUTTA, Nov. 5.—Captain Kelly, Master of the ship *Pyramide*, died suddenly on board his ship at Garden Reach this morning. There being some suspicion of foul play, it being actually ascertained that he was poisoned, the police took possession of the body and it will be the subject of a post-mortem examination to ascertain the actual cause of death.

VACATION REFORMS.—Sir Michael Hicks Beach, speaking at Sheffield, said he thought that drastic reforms in Army administration were required to meet the increase in the Army, ensuring adequate returns for the large expenditure.

Mr Balfour, speaking at Norwich, denied that the Government had directly or indirectly received a hint from the tribes on the Indian Frontier suggesting a breach of faith. The Government, he said, had no desire to add to the responsibility of the Indian Empire, the sole object being to secure our present possessions, and they therefore could not agree with a policy of retirement. The Government of India was, he said, immediately responsible for all military and political transactions and would never be responsible for the British Government with a light heart. The Liberal attack was really directed against Lord Elgin and his Council; if one man in the British Empire was deserving of sympathy, support and encouragement it was Lord Elgin.

THE WAR IN INDIA.  
London, November 5.—The *Times* Paris correspondent states that England, France and Russia are inclined to guarantee a Greek loan.

THE CYCLOPS.  
Simla, November 5.—The *Vidya* having informed the Queen of the great loss of life caused by the cyclone in the neighbourhood of Chittagong, Her Majesty has telegraphed to express her grief at hearing of the disaster.

(Via Australia.)  
STOBER'S XI IN AUSTRALIA.  
Adelaide, November 2.—The first international cricket match with Stoddard's English Eleven and the South Australian team commenced at Adelaide on Thursday. The South Australians won the test, and their first day's play concluded with a score of 871 for five wickets, H.B. being 200 not out. The South Australians concluded their innings on Friday for a total of 409 runs.

On the conclusion of the Friday's play the Englishmen had scored 383 runs for three wickets, Rajalingam being not out with 137 to his account. On Saturday the Englishmen concluded their innings for a total of 475 runs. Stoddard being unable to bat. The South Australians resumed places at the wickets and three wickets were down at the end of the day's play for 124 runs.

The match was continued on Monday but rain interfered with the play, and the game was drawn.

In their second innings the South Australians lost five wickets for 185 runs.

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